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IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Dawson, et al

EXAMINER: Ho, Thomas

SERIAL NO.: 09/931,370

ART UNIT: 3677

FILING DATE: August 16, 2001

DOCKET NO: 16409/93578-00

TITLE: An Improved Magnetic Seal

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

FEB 27 2003

Sir:

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In the Office Action mailed on July 29, 2002, claims 1-11 are pending. The examiner has rejected claim 8 on the basis of 35 USC §112, and on the on the basis of 35 USC §103(b): claims 1,3-5, 7, 9-11 as obvious in view of the combination of Dawson and Murphy; claim 2 as obvious in light of combination of Dawson and Orlowske; claim 6 as obvious in light of the combination of Dawson and Young; and claim 8 as obvious in light of the combination of Dawson, Young and Pelstring. In light of the following amendments and argument, it is respectfully requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

AMENDMENT

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

8(Once Amended). A shaft seal according to claim 6 wherein each of said at least one [plurality of] magnet[s] is positioned in a cavity on said rotor, each [of] said cavity [cavities] having an epoxy channel having a bottom which opens into said cavity, each [of] said epoxy channel[s] further having a top portion, where said top portion is of larger cross-sectional area than said

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